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THE MATHEMATICS TEACHER

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EDITORIAL.

The use of the slide rule in mathematics classes is rapidly increasing. One school of a technical nature reports that every student in the first term is taught the use of the rule. In the Stuyvesant

Evening Trade School of New York City, it is found that attendance is better during the teaching of the slide rule than at any other time during the term. A young woman who is private secretary to the president of a large electrical company uses the rule constantly and finds that it saves two-thirds of her time in checking office work. In the review courses of the Junior High School based on the real problem the slide rule is being found useful. In every academic high school there should be a course in review mathematics, preferably in the senior year. The slide rule introduced early in this course will prove fascinating to the students and will abridge many tedious mathematical calculations. A student applying for a position and equipped with a knowledge of the slide rule is often preferred before other candidates.

The principle of operation may be easily explained to a class in five minutes in sufficient detail to satisfy the students that it is reasonable. To obtain sufficient practice an hour per day for a week or two is usually necessary.

In the past, two things have hindered the teaching of the slide rule,—ignorance of teachers regarding it and the expense of equipment. Now, however, there are several good treatises

with abundant examples and numerous illustrations which make it perfectly possible for a mathematics teacher to instruct himself in the use of the rule. Expense, also, has been reduced to a minimum, so that a very good rule can be secured for \$2 or \$2.50.

THE MATHEMATICS TEACHER is glad to encourage the further extension of the use of the slide rule among teachers of mathematics. To this end inquiries regarding material and courses will receive prompt attention.

W. E. B.